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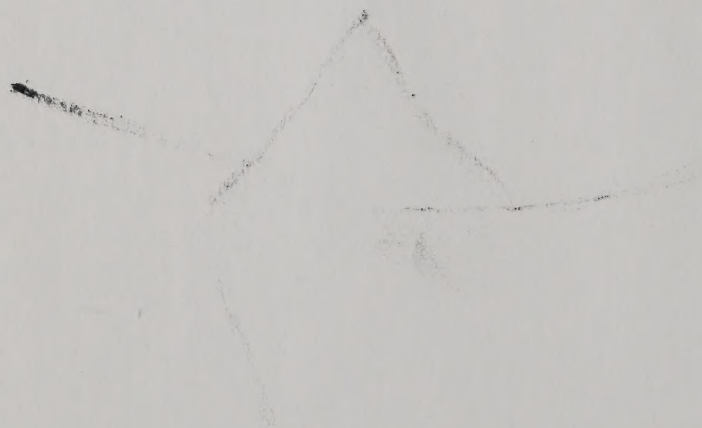
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*Ray Jones*

Iron County *Utah*  
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## GREETINGS

To the People of Iron County:

It is a pleasure for me as the Governor of Utah, to extend my sincere greetings and that of my office to the people of Iron County in conjunction with the County's 1951 Centennial celebration.

The progress made by Iron County during its first hundred years will be more than duplicated in coming generations if the same vision and determination which marked our Utah Pioneers remains with our people.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Bracken Lee

PIONEER hardihood and faith are the heritage of the residents of the great County of Iron in the State of Utah. The pioneer band which came to this county in January, 1851, were a selected group of stalwart artisans. The foresight of their leaders and the results of their sacrifices and accomplishments are apparent in the Iron County of 1951.

We salute the people of this great county today and revere the memory of those who made possible the advantages we now enjoy and the bright future before us.

IRON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Douglas Clark, Chairman  
Warren H. Bullock, Commissioner  
Jess Guymon, Commissioner  
W. Clair Rowley, Clerk

XEROXED 1973





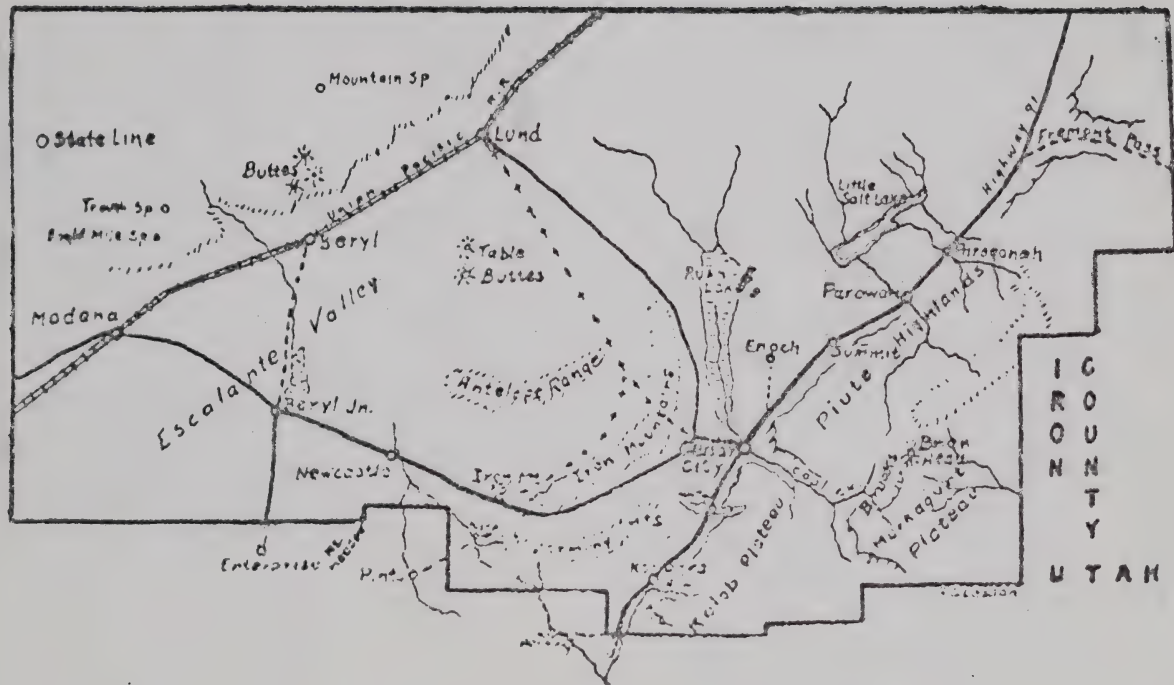
## DEDICATION

THESE PAGES ARE DEDICATED TO THE PIONEERS OF IRON COUNTY. THEY OFFER A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE COUNTY'S DEVELOPMENT FROM PRIMITIVE TO MODERN OCCUPATION. THEY SEEK TO REFLECT SOME OF THE FACTORS INVOLVED IN THE SUCCESSIVE CHANGES. SPACE LIMITATIONS HAVE REQUIRED THAT DETAILS BE SACRIFICED TO GENERALITIES. ALL BUT A FEW PERSONAL NAMES, NO MATTER HOW DESERVING, HAVE BEEN OMITTED. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT EACH PIONEER DESCENDANT READ INTO THIS OUTLINE THE NAMES OF ANCESTORS WHO PLAYED ROLES IN "BUILDING THE KINGDOM" IN THIS AREA.

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## I

### BEFORE THE PIONEERS CAME

#### GEOGRAPHY:

Iron County lies at the south rim of the Great Basin. The Hurricane Fault crosses its eastern end to form the dividing line between the Basin level on the west and the high plateau on the east. Streams heading in the highland (Markagunt Plateau) have cut down through its broken front forming colorful canyons and building a series of alluvial fans along its base. They enter the Little Salt Lake and Rush Lake, or the Virgin River beyond the rim of the Basin. From north to south the major streams are: Red Creek (Paragonah), Center Creek (Parowan), Summit Creek (Summit), Coal Creek - formerly Little Muddy (Cedar City), Shirts Creek (Hamilton's Fort) and Kanarra Creek (Kanarra-ville). The west portion of the county stretches toward blue Nevada Mountains. Its grey herbage is relieved by occasional green oases edging life sustaining springs.

#### PREHISTORIC:

Before recorded history Pueblo villages edged the streams of the fertile belt along the Hurricane Fault. Their remains tell of primitive man's agriculture on the alluvial plain and hunting on the highlands. Long after Pueblo villages lay buried in wind-swept mounds white men came to find Paiute Indians dwelling on their ruins and drawing sustenance from the varied levels of desert, intermediate highlands, and the high plateau. The Pahragoons, (dwellers by the water holes) and Kumoits (rabbit valley dwellers) occupied the Little Salt Lake and Cedar Valley's respectively.

#### FIRST WHITE MEN:

A company of Spanish horsemen was returning in 1776 from an unsuccessful attempt to span the wilderness between Santa Fe and Monterey. They turned southward from Timpanogos villages (Utah Lake) and were approaching the limits of the Great Basin when threat of winter drove them homeward. They traversed the desert to write the name of their historian, Escal-





lante, upon it and entered Cedar Valley, October 12th.

"We named the valley and the river (Coal Creek) after Senor San Jose. .... From north to south it is about twelve leagues .... it is very rich in pasturage; it has large valleys and medium-sized marshes and enough very good soil for a town for seasonal planting .... very near its course there is a great deal of timber, pinenut wood and royal pine and several good sites for cattle and sheep ranches. The indians who inhabit this valley and surrounding region .... dress very scantily. eat grass seeds, hares, pine kernels in their season ..... They do not plant corn and from what we saw their means of subsistence is very limited. They are extremely timid."

From a frightened indian the Spaniards learned more about Cedar Valley: "He had a large, well-made hemp net which, he said, he used to catch hares and rabbits - we asked him from whence these nets were obtained and he answered from other indians who live below the great river (Colorado) from whom we later learned, were also brought shells of different colors. .... some garments of dyed wool he wore he had bought that summer from two men who had crossed the river."

Again: "They were suspicious and very much afraid of us but we put in front of them a knife and some hundreds of glass beads. The old man seized these and he offered to guide us, as was evident later on, to give his family time to run away in safety to the nearby mountains."

Having made the first white man's recording of Iron County, the Spaniards hurried southward along the base of the Hurricane Cliffs, crossed the rim of the Basin, and after weary search found the Ute-Navajo ford on the Colorado River later called the Crossing of the Fathers.

#### THE SPANISH TRAILS:

Trade with the Indians in the last quarter of the 18th century developed the Old Spanish Trail between Santa Fe and



the Ute Country. Spanish traders found the upper crossings on the Colorado at Moab and Greenriver and pressed north as far as Timpanogos land. The beginning of the 19th Century found them pushing west across the Colorado Plateau and through Salina Canyon to Sevier River; then up the Sevier and through Fremont Pass into Little Salt Lake and Cedar Valleys. From the springs located at present Enoch the main trail sung out through Iron Springs Pass to Mountain Meadows, down the Santa Clara to the Virgin River and out across the desert to the Pacific to complete the Spanish Trail between Santa Fe and Los Angeles.

For half a century (1800-1850) this route was pounded by the hooves of thousands of California horses and mules being driven to market in Santa Fe. Indian slavery flourished as squaws and children were stolen or purchased along the way to be sold at both ends of the trail. Southern Utah tribes were threatened with extermination. Daniel Jones wrote in his "Forty Years Among the Indians":

.... "The people of New Mexico at the time I am writing of them, in 1851, were making annual trips, commencing with a few goods, trading on their way with either Navajos or Utes (generally with the Navajos) for horses which they sold very cheap, always retaining their best ones. These used-up horses were brought through and traded to the poorer Indians for children. The horses were often used for food. The trading was continued into Lower California, where the children bought on the down trip would be traded to Mexican-Californians for other horses, goods or cash.

"All the children bought on the return trip would be taken back to New Mexico and then sold, boys fetching on the average \$100. girls from \$150. to \$200. ...."

#### TRAPPERS AND TRADERS:

American trappers who swarmed over the west in search of beaver in the 1820's and 30's soon made contact with the Spanish Trail. Jedediah Smith was first among them to traverse present Utah north and south when he journeyed from Salt Lake





Valley to Los Angeles in 1826. He joined the Spanish Trail in Little Salt Lake Valley. William Wolfskill brought horses and mules over it to market. Peg-leg Smith and Jim Beckwourth gave up trapping and turned it into the "Horse Thief Trail." The Ute Chief Walkara proved a useful ally as they strewed the desert with bleaching bones and delivered thousands of California horses and mules first to Santa Fe and later to trading posts on the rapidly developing Oregon Trail.

#### RECONNAISSANCE:

Suddenly in 1844 history turned a new page in Iron County. Instead of trapper and trader came the "Pathfinder", John C. Fremont, piloted by Kit Carson, returned from California over the Spanish Trail. He systematically recorded the geography of his course. At Mountain Meadows he recognized the changes which ushered him out of the Colorado drainage system into what he first called the "Great Basin." He left the Spanish Trail in the Little Salt Lake Valley and travelled northward over much the same route that Jedediah Smith had come two decades earlier.

While Mexicans were moving west across Iron County with their pack trains on the Spanish route, the stream of covered wagons swelled each year on the Oregon Trail far to the north. White men with their families were being drawn into California and Oregon as into an irresistible vacuum. It was only a question of time before the two streams would spill over to flood the intervening area already recorded in Smith's and Fremont's journals.

#### MORMON BATTALION:

In 1846 American military forces hurried west to challenge Mexico in California. Among the troops who crossed the desert south of the Colorado was a battalion drawn from exiled Latter-day Saints (Mormons) on the plains of Iowa. The Mormon Battalion was present when Fremont and others completed the task of tying California to the United States. Before annexation of the entire Southwest by treaty had been completed in February 1848, the Mormons had moved in to occupy the Great Salt Lake Valley. In July of 1847 Captain Jefferson Hunt of the Battalion in Southern California hurried over the Spanish Trail, through Cedar and





Parowan Valleys to join his people in their new home.

#### LATTER-DAY SAINTS:

The Latter-day Saints represented new forces in the Great Basin. The Indian, creature of his environment, accepted his lot with minimum effort toward improvement; the trapper exploited both native and natural resources; the trader's interest was limited to routes and and commodity markets; the reconnaissance man merely recorded his surroundings - having made known the unknown he was content to leave its occupation to others. Among those who studied his charts were the Mormons. God had a work for them to do and their assignment was no less than to build an earthly Kingdom of God. The Great Basin beckoned them as a new "holy land" and they became intensely interested in both its natives and its resources.

#### FIRST WAGON ON EMIGRANT ROAD:

Brigham Young's covered wagons had barely circled for encampment in Great Salt Lake Valley in July, 1847. before Jefferson Hunt made his report of resources in Southern California. He was immediately dispatched to the San Bernardino Valley on a purchasing mission. Winter snows were close behind as his horsemen passed through the Little Salt Lake Valley again. He returned in the spring driving the remnants of a herd of cattle the greater part of which had succumbed to the desert. A few days later came twenty-five additional Mormon Battalion men bringing the first wagon over the Spanish Trail. They also turned north from Little Salt Lake Valley and, continuing to Great Salt Lake closed the emigration gap between the Spanish and Oregon trails. What was to become Iron County now lay on the Mormon Emigrant Road to Southern California.

#### FORTY NINERS - DISCOVERY OF IRON ORE:

The Mormons were still fresh rooted in the Great Salt Lake Valley when a wave of California gold seekers swept over them. Many '49ers arrived late in the Mormon settlements and gathered at Fort Utah (Provo) where they engaged Jefferson Hunt to lead them to the gold fields by the Southern route. The Indians of Paro-



wan and Cedar Valleys had scarcely mastered the word "Mormonee" when Hunt came piloting the American emigrants who won the designation "Mericans". The Hunt Company arrived in Little Salt Lake Valley on October 27, 1849, and four days later recorded: "October 31, we traveled thirteen miles and camped on a stream called "Little Muddy" (present Coal Creek of Cedar City) .... near this spring (Iron Springs) are immense quantities of rich iron ore."



Little Salt Lake

#### PRATT EXPLORATION:

Walkara, the Ute War Chief, called on Brigham Young in Salt Lake City, inviting settlement of San Pitch (San Pete and Little Salt Lake Valleys. His invitation encouraged rather than initiated an exploring expedition led by Parley P. Pratt. The fifty horsemen explored Sevier Valley and crossed the Plateau via the Spanish Trail to emerge by canyon into the northern end of Little Salt Lake Valley on December 21, 1849. Never before had the fertile margins of the Hurricane Fault received such close inspection. Pratt's were not the observations of the explorer, trapper, or trader, but of the colonizer. His eyes dared measure it prophetically in terms of building "The Kingdom." On December 23, he wrote of





Red Creek (now Paragonah), "This was judged a suitable place for a settlement of from fifty to one hundred families. The land is beautifully undulating with a fall to the westward, well calculated for watering. Willows, weeds and grasses are exceedingly dense for thousands of acres. The pasture lands extend for miles north and south of the farming lands. The foothills one or two miles distant are black with inexhaustible supplies of Cedar and scrub pine about twelve feet high and easy of access."

David Fullmer was left in command of explorations in Little Salt Lake area while Pratt took twenty men and proceeded along the Hurricane Fault toward Virgin Valley. The latter noted particularly the agricultural prospects on Center Creek (Parowan) with its "rich meadows and black soil" fanning out below high forested areas. In the next valley he "left the road and camped on Muddy Creek on the banks of which for several miles down is a considerable quantity of scattered cottonwoods, some large ones. Travelled twelve miles, good feed. Below is a handsome expansive plain of very rich land consisting partly of overflowed wire grass meadows all of which it was judged might be drained and cultivated using the water on the higher levels. Other portions of this plain are dry and level delightful for the plow and clothed with rich meadow grass, rabbit weed, etc.....on the southwestern borders of this valley are thousands of acres of Cedar, constituting an almost inexhaustible supply of fuel which makes excellent coal. In the center of these forests rises a hill of the richest iron ore. The water, soil, fuel, timber, and mineral wealth of this and Little Salt Lake Valley, it was judged, were capable of sustaining and employing from 50,000 to 100,000 inhabitants, all of which would have these resources more conveniently situated than any other settlements the company has seen west of the States."

Pratt crossed the rim of the Basin, explored the Virgin Valley to the Santa Clara and returned to the Little Salt Lake by way of the Spanish Trail. Here on Center Creek, to which the main company had moved they hoisted a flag on a lofty pole and celebrated with booming canon and a "bounteous feast." Dramati-



cally Pratt offered a toast "May this the 8th of January be kept as the founding of the city of Little Salt Lake which will hereafter be built."

Isaac C. Haight, camp clerk, recorded, "I shall leave this place with regret as it is one of the most lovely places in the Great Basin." Beyond this sentimental attraction for home-seekers the fertile belt along the Markagunt base offered at least two others of importance to "building the Kingdom": First, it lay on the Spanish Trail connecting the Mormon empire with the Pacific Coast outlets and second, it afforded iron and coal.

## II

### A DECADE OF COLONIZATION

#### CALL FOR IRON COLONISTS:

Because "coal, iron, and hard labor" were prerequisites to building "the Kingdom", Little Salt Lake Valley was given high priority on the Mormon list of colonization sites. "Iron we must have", declared Brigham Young, "we cannot well do without it." So, while Parley P. Pratt sponsored the creation of "Iron County" in the Legislature, President Young initiated an "Iron Mission". A call for volunteers appeared in the Deseret News of July 27, 1850:

"Brethren of Great Salt Lake City and vicinity, who are full of faith and good works, who have been blessed with means; . . . . are informed by the Presidency of the Church that a colony is wanted at Little Salt Lake this fall; that 50 or more good effective men with teams and wagons, provisions and clothing, are wanted for one year.

"Seed grain in abundance and tools in all their variety for a new colony are wanted to start from this place immediately after the Fall Conference, to repair to the Valley of the Little Salt Lake without delay. There to sow, build and fence; erect a saw and grist mill, establish an iron foundry as speedily as possible and do all other acts and things necessary for the preservation and safety of an infant settlement."

Huge, genial George A. Smith, Mormon apostle of great energy and ability was given command of the mission. The company





included 120 men, 30 women, and 18 children under 14 years. There were 101 wagons, 2 carriages, 100 horses, 12 mules, 364 oxen, and 166 head of loose cattle. Also seed grain, and "14 dogs, 18 cats, 121 chickens, 1,228 pounds groceries, 9¼ sets of carpenters tools, 3½ sets of blacksmith's tools, 1 set of saw mill irons, 3 whip saws, 57 plows, 137 axes, 110 spades and shovels, 90 hoes, 72 scythes and cradles, 45 grass scythes, 45 sickles, 436 lights (panes) of glass, 190 pounds of nails, 55 stoves, 1 brass cannon (a six pounder), 129 guns, 52 pistols, 9 swords, 1,001 rounds of ammunition and 44 saddles." The group was divided into two companies of fifty and organized on a military basis. After receiving a sustaining vote at Fort Utah (Provo) on December 15, 1850, Smith expressed the spirit of the expedition, "I hope our ears will not be saluted with swearing or the taking of the name of the Lord in vain. We want no gambling. We are going to gather the Saints and build up the Kingdom of God. We should act as though we are on a Mission to preach the gospel. The Sabbath day should be observed in all cases. Six days we should labor and we should rest on the Sabbath."

#### PAROWAN SETTLEMENT:

The "citizens of Iron County" arrived on Center Creek (Parowan) January 13, 1851. Plans were made in public assembly for immediate construction of a fort and council house. They paused to celebrate the unexpected arrival of Jefferson Hunt on January 16, enroute from California. Hunt was elected Iron County representative to the legislature of the State of Deseret and following his departure on the 18th, colonizing was quickly resumed. An Indian trader was appointed on the 19th to handle all barter with the natives; a fort survey was commenced, and construction of a four mile canyon road begun on the 21st; a ninety-nine foot "Liberty pole" was raised above the site of permanent location on the 25th and the following day the first "fifty" of the camp was appointed to bring timber out of the canyon for the council house. On the 28th the entire company moved across the creek into the fort site and the settlement was named "Louisa". The council house,



measuring 22 by 45 feet was built in the shape of a Greek cross with recesses twelve feet by sixteen. The fort survey was 56 rods square with provision for 92 lots, measuring 2 rods wide and four deep. Streets four rods wide separated the homes from the public corral in the center of the fort. By March 25, sixteen hundred acres of land had been surveyed of which four hundred were sowed in wheat. A census of April 1 found a total population of 360 - 191 males, 169 females.

A company of 500 Mormons enroute to colonize San Bernardino Valley camped near Louisa from April 11 to 18th. Their gold fever threatened to uproot the Center Creek settlement. But the few who succumbed and left with the California Company were more than compensated for by the arrival of several additional families on May 8.

President Young arrived on May 10. He and his company were welcomed with cheers, flags flying, and the boom of cannon. He inspected the buildings in progress, the 1,000 acre planted fields, and counselled the Saints in daily meetings. Before he left he re-christened the community Parowan (Paiute name for Little Salt Lake and signifying "evil water") and the first municipal election had installed William H. Dame as mayor. The town had already been incorporated by the General Assembly on February 6 as one of the first five in the State of Deseret. Thirty men were reluctantly granted permission to accompany the President on his return to Salt Lake City - most of them to bring back their wives and families to Parowan.

Those who remained redoubled their labors on the virgin farms and timbered highlands. Evaporation robbed them of victory when a seven mile canal was completed too late to bring water from Red Creek for irrigation purposes. Harvest time nevertheless found them with a water-powered threshing machine surrounded by large stacks of grain. Also a saw and grist mill were in operation on Center Creek. A stock corral eight feet high and enclosing two acres gave protection to 500 head of cattle and horses





at Red Creek sinks (Paragonah) and another corral was built at Elk Horn Springs. (Enoch)



Parowan Rock Church built 1863-67

#### INDIAN NEIGHBORS:

The native who had accustomed himself to trespass on his domain now found the trespassers taking possession of his streams and homelands as their own. After a generation of stalking transient white men from behind rocks and shubbery he now came out of hiding to identify himself as neighbor of the colonizer. He appeared in doorways claiming food and clothing in return for the settlers appropriation of his lands. Chief Kanarra, tall, lean, and dressed in "a pair of mocassins, short leggings, and a kind of small cloak made of rabbit skins", paid his respects with mingled friendship and expectation of gifts; sojourning Chief Peteetneet, from up Timpanogos way, expressed approval as he surveyed the grazing stock, and the Ute war chief Walkara appeared announcing that he had warned all the surrounding clans against molesting the Mormons.



## IRON MANUFACTURING:

When harvest was over in the Fall the pioneers turned to their iron assignment. A fort-site was selected on Coal Creek, (changed from the "Muddy" when coal was discovered in its bed,) and George A. Smith "dedicated the ground just surveyed, the surrounding lands, the minerals, the water, the timber and grass to the services of God in the manufacture of iron, machinery, etc., that the necessities of the Saints might be supplied and Utah built up." Henry Lunt was given charge of the colonizing company of thirty selected English, Scotch, and Welsh iron miners and manufacturers. They arrived on November 11, 1851, with eleven wagons and were reinforced by an additional company a few weeks later.

Winter quarters were made by setting the wagon boxes in a straight line facing south. A 300 foot square enclosure of brush reinforced with cottonwoods and adobes provided a fort as well as a corral for the animals. (North of present Cedar City cemetery). Chief Cal-o-a-chipe welcomed the colonists but his clansmen gathered in such numbers that the Mormons speeded up their military organization. In the process of "forting up" several permanent buildings appeared along the inside of the fort wall. At year's end the historian wrote ".... in the midst of semi-hostile savages, guarding, fencing, farming, and exploring and building houses, mills, etc., we have had our prayers answered in the preservation of our lives and property." He continued in the new year, "Jan. 1, 1852 came upon us in the estimation of a pleased God, the whole people were called together and in a mighty prayer we thanked the God of Israel for his past blessings upon our labors and presently called upon him to bless us in the future and to enable us to maintain ourselves in this desert land, to protect us from the Indians and to accomplish the mission we were sent to perform, namely, the manufacture of iron."

A field of 500 acres was cleared and an irrigation canal constructed to it. Each man acquired ownership by drawing for a ten-acre block and was also entitled to a garden plot near the fort.

While the farmers attended to cultivation, the iron workers



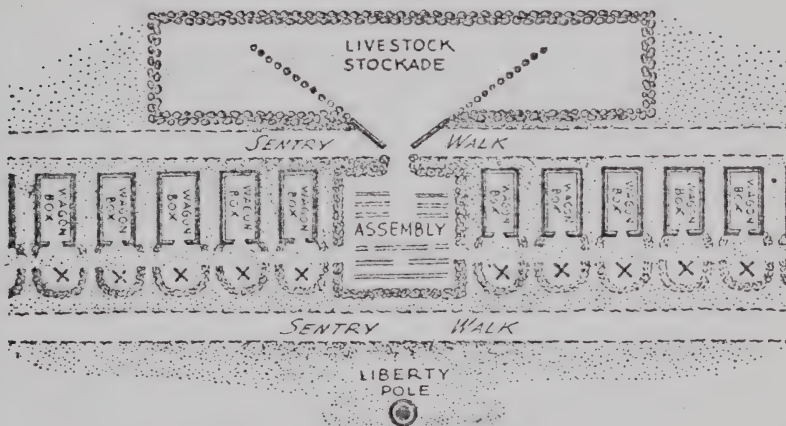


turned to furnace building and accumulating supplies for iron manufacturing. A small amount of iron, "sufficient for nails to shoe a horse" and a pair of andirons was produced inside the Old Fort by means of a blacksmith's bellows. While the experiment was reassuring relative to iron manufacture, it revealed that the local coal was not suited to its purpose. The by-product, coke, did not serve much better, which necessitated the gathering and use of dry pitchpine and charcoal. A blast furnace was erected on the creek bank and lined with fire clay brick of local manufacture. Roads and bridges were constructed, clay and fuel dug and hauled, Men and boys with sledge hammers broke up the ore brought from Iron Mountain, and slowly the stockpile grew alongside a heap of charcoal and pitchpine. Home manufactured machinery was framed in native timber and wagons were stripped of iron which, it was expected, would soon be replaced by native production.

Meanwhile, Brigham Young communicated with Mormon agents in England with intent to secure capital for the Iron Mission. Erastus Snow and Franklin D. Richards succeeded in raising four thousand pounds and the "Deseret Iron Company" was organized in Liverpool, April 28, 1852. The President, not yet informed of the success in England, visited the iron colony in Cedar City on May 11. Richard Harrison was elected superintendent of the iron works, Henry Lunt, secretary. These men, assisted by Thomas Bladen as engineer and David Adams as stoker, directed the work until the eventful 29th of September when the furnace was charged. The entire population gathered at evening around a huge bonfire. There were a few short talks, a prayer, and the furnace was fired and the blast turned on. Anxious hours preceded the crucial moment when tapping would reveal success or failure from a year's hard labor. "On the morning of the 30th the furnace was tapped and a small quantity of iron run out which caused the hearts of all to rejoice." "Hosannah! Hosannah! Hosannah! to God and the Lamb," rang through the wilderness to announce the first iron production west of the Mississippi. Before nightfall a committee of five was riding hard toward Salt Lake City, carrying samples of



the iron to Brigham Young. The President made good use of them in his appeal to the legislature for support of the iron industry, and in the General Conference of the Church George A. Smith proudly exhibited a pair of home manufactured andirons. Having proved itself, the infant industry waited the arrival of Snow and Richards with capital from England.



First Cedar Encampment - Nov. 1851

#### EXPANSION:

Meanwhile, in 1852, the corrals at Red Creek and Elk Horn Springs grew into villages. Fifteen to twenty families at the former location enclosed their log houses with a fort wall and called the settlement Paragonah (Place of the Waterholes). Seven families at the springs built Johnson's Fort and with the help of Paiute labor cared for over a thousand cattle and horses (mostly owned in Parowan and Cedar City.) Peter Shirts who had located coal deposits on Coal Creek, was granted permission to settle on the last important stream entering the Basin, named Shirts Creek for him.

Parowan, as the mother colony, not only founded new settlements in 1851-52, but explored much of southern Utah for future occupation. John D. Lee and others explored the Virgin Valley in January of 1852 and in early June accepted Chief Ka-



narra's invitation to visit the "Fish Eaters" on Panguitch Lake. This ascent to the top of the Markagunt Plateau was followed in June with a more extended survey when he led his party up through Paragonah Canyon to Sevier Valley near present Panguitch. This valley, it was reported, could sustain fifty to one hundred families, "especially those interested in lumbering." Lee's party followed up the South Fork of the Mammoth Creek, explored the eastern flank of the heavily wooded plateau which drains into the upper Sevier and Virgin Rivers, and descended to the junction of the Virgin, La Verkin, and Ash Creeks. Here they found about five acres of native cultivated grain, squash, beans and potatoes. The Indians nevertheless appeared destitute and the Chief's request for assistance found answer when Lee was sent to establish Fort Harmony on Ash Creek in late fall.

#### DESERET IRON COMPANY:

When Erastus Snow and Franklin D. Richards arrived in Salt Lake City from England Brigham Young sent them at once to Cedar City. The iron pioneers resolved in a school-house meeting held the last of November, 1852, that the company agree to take whatever sum that Snow and Richards say they will give" and the original organization was absorbed into the Deseret Iron Company for \$2,865.65.

Agents Snow and Richards read the constitution of the Deseret Iron Company by candle light. The eighteenth article, following a routine statement of purpose, organization and procedure, stated: "Forasmuch as we invoke the blessings of our Heavenly Father upon our capital and business, therefore, Resolved that each member of the Deseret Iron Company shall hallow his stock vested in the company unto the Lord by paying tithes thereon and that the company regularly tithe their income ver after."

Years of varied success in iron manufacturing followed. The company produced castings for home manufactured machinery, molasses rolls, flat irons, plows, nails, horse-shoes, stoves and stove grates. Kitchen and household utensils and machinery parts were sold in the surrounding country, castings were molded for





the mines in Pioche and stove grates were carried as far as the Spanish Missions in California. A large clear-sounding bell cast in 1853 served the community for many years. (The bell is preserved in Cedar City in care of the Daughters of the Pioneers.)

Citizens of Utah Territory followed eagerly the progress of iron manufacturing in the Deseret News:

"An excellent air furnace was nearly finished (Feb. 26, 1853) built of adobes with a tunnel 300 ft. long to convey the smoke to a chimney stack 40 feet high .... The stack was so constructed that it could answer four chimneys when completed. An extensive frame building has been erected for a casting house."

April 2, 1853: "In the beginning of March, 1853, the blast furnace was run once a week during which 25,000 pounds of clear good iron was made and 600 bushels of charcoal was consumed."

October 15, 1853: "We have six men with the herd of cattle daily, well armed, and a strong guard every night around the fort, and as soon as the fort is enclosed, we hope to commence the iron works anew. A tremendous flood came down Coal Creek on Saturday, Sept. 31, carrying away bridges, dams and everything before it; brought an immense quantity of logs and rocks of great size."

#### INDIAN TROUBLES:

Adding to the problem of expensive fuel and destructive floods came Indian troubles as reflected in the last News item. Early spring of 1853 found Peteetneet's braves insolent and demanding with reference to grazing their horses in Parowan grain fields. Chief Kanarra not only warned the Mormons of an impending attack on the settlement, but joined forces with them against Peteetneet. The latter angrily withdrew to Cedar City where his company divided - one group to fall upon and massacre a band of Paiutes at Iron Springs in revenge for Kanarra's interference, and the other to meet Chief Walkara who was returning from the Navajos. Chief Walkara inquired through messengers if he would be



welcome at Cedar City and talked of settling down like the "Mormonees" to raise cattle. Eleven miles north, at Summit Creek, he intercepted a party of Mormons pursuing emigrant horse thieves. When they escaped his death trap and fled back to Parowan, the Chief hurried up the canyon toward Sevier Valley, leaving Parowan citizens greatly concerned about his intentions. Even more they repented having neglected their fort walls.

The Iron Colony had recently moved to a new site on Coal Creek for greater security. (Near the power plant on the airport road). They had begun a hundred rod square fortification of heavy clay walls designed to be twelve feet high and six feet wide at the base. However, construction here had also been neglected: the Paiute neighbors seemed friendly enough. They accepted presents and employment, and even adoption of their children into Mormon homes in return for encroachment on their lands. Expanding cultivated acres and growing herds gave the redskins a sense of security against the rigors of winter and Mormon-Lamanite relations seemed generally satisfactory. Chief Walkara had passed through the settlements several times on his seasonal visits to the Navajos and his raids in California. He had not molested the Mormons but persisted in stealing Paiute squaws and children for Mexican trade. The Paiutes who could do nothing to prevent it, had turned to bartering with the Chief for what they could get, thereby contributing to their own destruction.

#### INDIAN SLAVERY - WALKER WAR:

It was Mormon interference with the War Chief's economy that had resulted in the strained relations of early 1853. Previously they had merely sought to encourage the Paiutes against selling their squaws and children. Then, under pressure, they bought the hapless creatures themselves under a territorial slave law designed to rescue them from the brutal traffic. (The law required a minimum of care and education and freedom on attainment of maturity.) Finally, in April, 1853, the Mormons interfered directly with Walkara's operations when the Governor issued a proclamation forbidding slave trade in Utah Territory. In face





of the Chief's reaction the Iron County pioneers suddenly realized the folly of leaving their walls uncompleted.

Walkara sulked. His ugly mood infected every clan as he rode northward and finally on July 17, flared into open war through an incident in Springville. From Utah County the war spread through the Wasatch overnight, and in far off Iron County the colonists who had neglected to "fort up" now hastened to comply. Agriculture and the iron mission languished while the pioneers worked feverishly on their walls. Paragonah, Johnson's Fort and Shirts Creek were abandoned and the buildings of the former destroyed. Two hundred and eighty head of cattle were driven to Salt Lake Valley as a safety measure. George A. Smith, the "Iron Colonel" found a certain grim satisfaction in the sudden turn of events, "I went to every community", he sermonized in Salt Lake City, "and attempted to encourage them to fort but failed to accomplish anything . . . . If the people of Iron County had listened to counsel given them they would have saved themselves in that little settlement not over 800 strong, no less than twenty-five thousand dollars."

But even as they raised a barrier against the Indians as a potential enemy the Mormons sought to strengthen relations with him as an ultimate friend. High Church officials arriving in the fall of 1853 made assignments to that end:

"Joel H. Johnson and sons were appointed to carry on farming and to teach the Piede Indians how to cultivate the ground for their support. Brother Johnson's son, Nephi, having as good a knowledge of the Indian language as any in the country, was sustained as Indian interpreter and was engaged in the winter of 1853-54 teaching the people of Cedar the dialect of the natives."

On Christmas day nearly 300 of their "Lamanite" neighbors - men, women and children, were entertained by the iron colonists at Cedar City:

"The brethren preached to them in their own language and made them a donation of an ox together with some vegetables



and flour, after which they returned to their camp rejoicing."

Then within a year the war was over as suddenly as it began. Brigham Young talked "peace" with Walkara at Chicken Creek (Levan) in the spring of 1854 and invited the Chief to join his tour of the southern settlements. In Parowan the President announced, "The war is over - I have it with me." The abandoned sites were soon re-occupied but in 1859, most of the settlers at Johnson's Fort moved to Summit Creek, leaving the Johnson family as a nucleus for other settlers. Among these was John P. Jones, whose family lived the "Order of Enoch" after which the place was renamed. Those returning to Shirts Creek called the settlement Sidon until 1859 when President George A. Smith named it Hamilton's Fort, after John Hamilton - one of the original settlers.

#### CEDAR CITY:

The iron colonists at Cedar City welcomed President Young into the security of the new fort only to be warned by "Brother Brigham" that its location exposed them to serious flood hazards. Large boulders scattered about them by previous torrents left no room for argument and they accepted his counsel to build their permanent community on higher levels. The following day they selected a site south of the creek under the Red hill.

When the location was platted two years later fields were opened to cultivation nearer the permanent settlement. The old settlers gave up the security of the fort reluctantly. Fresh arrivals in the colony drew from a box for lots and farming acres and settled in the new town. Intended as a manufacturing community the city was laid out with longer blocks and shorter lots than the familiar "city of Zion" pattern common to the Mormons. However, it still presented the basic design of a compact settlement with outlying farms in the "north, south, and west fields."

#### FAILURE OF IRON INDUSTRY:

The early promise of success in iron manufacturing faded as puny man lost against overwhelming odds. Fuel problems, lack of skilled labor, failure of water power and destructive floods were climaxed in 1853-54 by the Walker War interruption. Again, in



1855, after long and costly preparations, a successful run proved disappointingly short, demonstrating the pathetic need of manpower. When water power failed again in 1856, Brigham Young's offer of his steam engine was accepted and although brought 265 miles to the iron works for use the next year, it lay idle due to the plant shut down. After another disappointing year it became evident that the iron pioneers' single victory was an option on the future. Enough good grade cast iron had been produced on which to build dreams of an iron empire. The failure of iron manufacture, followed closely by the "Utah War" and the Mountain Meadows tragedy reduced Cedar City from a community of 928 to 376. Three decades were to pass before it again outnumbered its mother colony, Parowan.

#### ROOTS OF SURVIVAL:

The cloud of failure which shadowed the iron pioneers mercifully watered new industry. The same threat of Johnston's Army which had stopped iron operations in 1857 caused abandonment of outlying Mormon settlements and sent many San Bernardino colonists back to Iron County in 1858. One of the last runs of the blast furnace converted seven wagon loads of Johnston's Army cannon balls into molasses rolls and other castings.

The iron workers turned to agriculture and home industry for survival. Cattle and sheep proved vital to their economy. Alfalfa seed brought by Australian converts to San Bernardino and relayed to Iron County became vitally important as did a quart of cotton seed carried from Parowan to the Mormon Indian Mission on the Santa Clara. When the latter materialized into thirty yards of cloth and a sample reached Brigham Young's office it resulted in a "Cotton Mission" in the entire Virgin River Valley.

#### BRIGHAM YOUNG:

Each spring and fall brought President Brigham Young's entourage of Church leaders on a month-long tour of the southern settlements. The high church men were sometimes accompanied by their families on which occasions the wagons and carriages formed a mile-long procession flanked by a score of mounted men.





The distinguished company was always met by local horsemen who gave it personal escort into the settlements. And the Iron County settlements were not to be outdone in their welcome. Cannons boomed and the people cheered and sang as the President approached under an arch of evergreens which bore the flowered inscription, "God bless our Prophet." The stars and stripes fluttered atop the liberty pole beckoning the honorable visitors to the "meeting house" also decorated in flowers and green boughs. Meetings were held at which the pioneers "listened to the word of the Lord as it fell from the lips of the prophets". Feasting and dancing usually followed.

#### HOME INDUSTRY:

Brigham Young's doctrine of home industry never found more determined adherents than among the pioneers of Iron County. "Produce what you consume", he preached, "draw from the native elements the necessities of life" . . . . Captain John W. Gunnison, seeing the doctrine in practice, concluded, "The dignity of labor is held sacred by the Mormons and exemplified in their organizations and requirements . . . . The labor for support of oneself and family is taught to be of as divine character as public worship or prayer."

#### EARLY CULTURE:

In contrast with current conventions the Mormons preached and practiced the doctrine of leisure-time recreation. Brother Brigham seldom failed to stress cultural matters in his exhortations. Along with items of economy, thrifty use of machinery, improvement of livestock breeds, and patronage of home industry, came "cultivate good music, singing, drama, dancing, architecture." Celebrations of historic events, and thanksgiving feasts were interspersed with socials honoring departing missionaries or arrival of immigrant converts. The latter added color and variety as they clung to foreign customs and holidays.

Drama was popular from the beginning with Dramatic Associations in Parowan and Cedar City vying for top honors. Both won the praise of George A. Smith, who wrote in the Fifty's:



"They have a dramatic association in Cedar City which gives entertainment twice a week. Also an excellent brass band. They (also) have a dramatic association in Parowan which plays every Saturday night. They are playing some choice pieces and give good satisfaction to the people as evidenced by the crowded houses they draw." The Parowan Association was formed in the year of colonization and played without scenery in the log council house. Its earliest selections included "The Village Lawyer" and "Slasher and Crasher" presented before an audience of two hundred. The tickets were twenty-five cents but alas, the collections only reached \$6.25 due to the large attendance of "deadheads" representing complimentary tickets to relatives and friends. "The Vicar of Wakefield", played in the original old Fort, inaugurated the drama in Cedar City, followed soon by "The Rent Day" and "Irish Tiger". Other Iron County favorites were "Ingomar the Barbarian", "David and Goliath", "Forty Nights in a Bar Room", and "Farmer's Daughter". Also two farces called "Tip and Smash" and "Box and Cox".



Ingomar The Barbarian Revived in 1951

Important also were the choirs in both Parowan and Cedar City. Under capable leadership they practiced long hours in order to perform creditably for the "visiting brethren". The Parowan choir taken to Salt Lake City by Brigham Young won high praise





from General William T. Sherman when it coaxed him out of hotel seclusion with "Hard Times Come Again No More" Parowan which had been only a place on the map for him now won his praise for beautiful homes built under conditions of hardship and he earnestly hoped that "hard times would indeed come again no more".

Square dancing provided an ideal social recreation. The fiddler was paid in produce and jack-knives stuck into wall crevices often served as candleholders. The dances were opened and closed with prayer and what if some did come barefooted and all paid admission with vegetables or tallow candles!

The first decade of Iron County is summarized by a local historian, "Our ingenuity was put to the test and our inventive skill was brightened up by necessity. We began to turn our attention to home manufactures to supply our local wants. Tanneries, shoe shops, furniture, the making of combs, threshing machines, blacksmith, wagon makers, nail machinery, etc. Last, though not least, a woolen factory was established and cloth made from the raw material in our vicinity. The iron was furnished by our furnaces; looms, spinning machine, carder, etc. were all made here and by as good mechanics as are found anywhere in the world. In these years of scarcity and disappointment the domestic spinning wheel and the hand loom were not neglected. Many of our wives and daughters could take the wool from the sheep's back, wash card, spin, color, weave, and make up for their husbands, brothers, and sisters. Cotton grown 60 miles south was taken and carded by hand for warping and sewing thread . . . . Our past experience has made us sober and grave, clever and ingenious, dignified and independent."



### III

## ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

### AGRICULTURE

Henry Lunt wrote on May 24, 1865, "The farmers have done an immense amount of work this spring making a canal to convey water to the south side of the new survey and this, together with the making of new sects for proper distribution of water for irrigation purposes has kept us unusually busy .... Coal Creek is higher than ever - all the dams previously built for irrigation have washed out." This was the eternal struggle for survival under irrigation farming. Added to the hazards of flood were those of drought and the plague of grasshoppers and rabbits.

Water which had determined the original location of Iron County villages continued to control community growth. Indian hostility had dictated compact settlements surrounded by outlying irrigated fields; the fields expanded to accomodate additional colonists as fast a new sections could be brought under the ditch; and the total acreage was limited by water storage on the plateaus. Spring floods wasting in wire-grass meadows beyond the village farms were made to reclaim new lands for out in the valley. When surface water reached its maximum use subterranean sources were explored. Artesian wells supported small farms on the margin of the desert and finally pump wells opened the Escalante Desert to agriculture.

### ESCALANTE VALLEY:

Desert conquest is still in progress in Iron County's Escalante Valley. During the half century following Mormon settlement the desert's worth seemed limited to isolated springs which permitted winter grazing. New underground water resources were developed during the land boom in the second decade of the present century. Courageous experimental pump well farming followed with uncertain success. In the 1940's new wells, plus reactivation of old ones, raised the cultivated area from 900 to nearly 16,000 acres. The annual water pumpage increased from 2,600 to over



51,000 acre feet - comparable to that of the Provo River. This flow used up over 6,000,000 kilowat hours of electrical energy in 1950. Adequate power at satisfactory rates remains the valley's biggest problem in its production of potatoes, carrots, sugar beets, wheat, alfalfa, and barley. The latter forage crops assume added importance in their relation to the county's cattle industry in years of drought. As a pioneering venture on Iron County's modern frontier the Beryl district presents to established communities their latest opportunity for cooperation.



Escalante Valley under pump wells

#### LIVESTOCK:

Iron County's first settlers rooted themselves in the fertile margins of Hurricane Fault in the fifties; During the next decade they drove their livestock to graze on the high plateaus and built saw mills along the mountain streams. Summer ranch houses dotted the Kolob and Paiutes highlands in the seventies. Dairying, and lumbering became important industries. Nevada mining towns provided markets for meat, cheese, and lumber.

Early community herding in the pioneer villages developed into livestock cooperatives on the plateaus. Typical of these were the Parowan Cattle Coop, utilizing the Paiute highlands and the





Kanarra Cattle Company operating on Ash Creek and the Kolob Plateau. The Cedar City Cattle Company followed in 1875 and continued until 1884 when it passed to private ownership. Also in 1875, sixty-two Cedar City owners formed a cooperative sheep association. Cattle, land, labor and other material useful to the business were accepted as stock and in Mormon fashion the company's meetings were opened and closed with prayer. Incorporated as the Cedar Sheep Association in 1861 the company became an economic bulwark to Southern Utah for half a century. It controlled land as well as sheep and under capable management became a preferred depository, not only for individuals, but for school boards, bands, city corporation and the Emigration Fund.

Iron County livestock industry blossomed into a \$100,000 cooperative organization when a number of sheep men pooled their interests in 1900. Iron Springs became a busy shearing center from which long processions of teams conveyed some of the state's biggest livestock yields thirty miles to the railroad station at Lund. Rambouillet sheep were introduced in 1904 and reached peak production in the Parowan Rambouillet sheep Breeders Association, organized in 1922. Sixty thousand purebreds attracted world-wide attention. In the late twenties buyers came from the Russian government to purchase Parowan stock for the improvement of their native herds.

Mountain dairying faded from the Iron County picture when sheep edged cattle off the plateaus at the beginning of the century. Unique among dairy enterprises remaining in the valleys is the Southern Utah Dairy Company, organized in Parowan in 1926. Well known for its excellent Paradale cheese it has expanded into a many-sided cooperative which includes merchandising, feed production, frozen food storage, and more recently a garage and service center.

Change is characteristic of the frontier: The public domain came under government control, the desert was opened to homesteaders, mountain lands assumed private ownership and cooperative livestock returned to individual management. Overgrazing



became a serious problem and in "dry years" threatened destruction of the livestock industry. In the period of 1896-1900 nearly half of Southern Utah's range animals died of starvation. As an aid to restoration and preservation of natural resources, the National Forest instituted its program of conservation - of watersheds, timber, range and wild life. The state also stepped in to regulate the use of underground water resources in the valleys and Iron County's centennial year saw the first attempts to conquer drought by inducing rainfall artificially.

#### INDUSTRY:

Necessity underscored Brigham Young's annual home industry sermons. The saw mill on Center Creek was only the beginning of harnessing its power. A flume of tongue-grooved plank brought its waters inside the Parowan Fort where for three eighths of a mile it served a string of power industries, -- first the grist mill, then tannery, metal shop, machine and gunsmith shop, cabinet shop and blacksmith shop. Apart from these stood a barrel and bucket factory and a ceramic plant. With prospects of cotton production in Virgin River Valley, a cotton factory was built near the end of the "power line" in 1862. Early success in this latter venture during Civil War years faded with return of peace and when Brigham Young removed the machinery to the Virgin Valley the building was converted into a wool scouring plant and later into a cabinet shop. Parowan boasted three steam and three upright saw mills in 1872 which not only met local lumber needs but supplied a lucrative market in Pioche, Nevada. When the Pioche market failed, Silver Reef continued the demand for Mormon lumber products. Spinning wheels hummed in every house and Cedar City won press recognition through spinning and weaving 3,000 yards of cloth from fleeces of seven hundred sheep.

Industry also resorted to cooperative methods. President Young never failed to stress their importance in the building of the Kingdom. He met the depression of the early seventies with "United Orders". Enroute from St. George in the spring of 1874, he preached cooperative industry with a unique religious emphasis



and helped organize the "orders" in the towns through which he passed. These societies varied in organization and were composed of voluntary membership which usually pooled its resources and labor into joint stock companies. Each unit was antonomus with individual members voting by shares and enjoying profits in proportion to amount contributed. Organizations were effected in both Parowan and Cedar City with large numbers subscribing to provisions as follows: (-) Abstinence from profanity, (2) family prayers, (3) observance of the health code called the Word of Wisdom, (4) love, affection, unselfishness in family, (5) personal cleanliness and chasity, (6) Sabbath observance, (7) "That which is not entrusted to our care we will not appropriate to our use," (9) cancellation and avoidance of debts, (10) Exclusive patronage of the Order, (11) avoidance of "foolish and extravagant fashions" and patronage of home manufacture, (12) simplicity and economy, (13) Combine labor for mutual benefit and sustain elected management, (14) devotion through the Order to upbuilding of the Kingdom of God.

The "Orders" as such were soon dissolved, but Brigham Young never lost faith in cooperative principles. In one of his last sermons in Iron County he dwelt at length on the "wisdom, duty, and necessity, of people working to become self-sustaining in tanning, making up boots and shoes, cloth, clothes, hats, and showed the folly of buying 5 or 6 mowing machines when only one was necessary .... for the use of the settlement .... and combining labor and means in a cooperative manner." The Parowan Cooperative Manufacturing and Mercantile Company followed by Parowan United Manufacturing Institution (PUMI) played an important part in the mother colony's economic life, operating a roller mill, tannery, harness, boot and shoe shop, cabinet and carpenter shop and mercantile establishment. In 1909 Parowan built one of the first community-owned and operated power plants in the state. Today a new municipal hydro-electric plant provides a fitting monument to local community cooperative enterprise on the spot where Parowan's industries lined Center Creek a century ago.





The Cedar City Coop likewise became very versatile in its activities, serving as bank, tax collecting agency, produce distributor, etc. Individuals and public institutions deposited funds with the store and through it paid their employees with store orders. Sometimes they were allowed to draw limited amounts of cash. Farm produce was brought to the store which sold it to pedlars who in turn disposed of it in the mining camps. This was the primary channel through which produce was turned into cash.



Cedar Coop built in 60's

In 1880 a Cedar City correspondent concluded his summary of its community assets with, "Everything has been accomplished by local enterprise - there has been no outside capital involved ... Take us all together, we are a happy family on the rim of the Great American Basin."

#### PIONEER EDUCATION:

Less than a year after settlement a school house was dedicated in Parowan on December 23, 1851. Education was as intimate with the colonists as their religion and often shared the same humble "meeting house", or crowded into the social hall. In a community accepting as religious doctrine that "a man is saved



no faster than he gains knowledge," education was king.

There were no state or federal funds available for education so schools were first financed by donations and then by voluntary taxing. With an independence born of self support the Mormons joined religious and secular education in one and encouraged the use of the "Standard Works of the Church" as text books. They went further in the late 50's and 60's to foster a unique educational device known as the "Deseret Alphabet". It consisted of a phonetic system of forty characters with uniform relation between the signs and sounds. "The design of the Deseret System is to teach spelling and reading of the English language in an easy manner." A beginner's reader in Deseret Alphabet was printed in 1868. Later a volume appeared for older students and the Book of Mormon was printed in the new characters. Indications of this short-lived educational phenomenon in Iron County range from Stake clerical minutes, written in the new signs, to a neatly carved tombstone epitaph.

Teachers pay, consisting of from two to five dollars per quarter per scholar, came one third in wheat, one third in produce and a third in cash, if the latter were available. McGuffey Readers and National spellers and geographies took precedence over religious texts when the territory provided for teacher compensation. Among the most valued teachers were graduates from the Brigham Young Academy. It was with considerable sacrifice and much pride that the Parowan Stake Academy of present-day high school level was established in Cedar City in the eighties. Five acres on "Academy Hill" were set aside for its future housing.

RELIGION:

The spirit of "the Kingdom" dominated early Iron County settlements. Religious influence was strong in temporal affairs and church matters occupied much of the week days as well as Sunday. There were "Fast Thursdays" each month when "offerings of the Saints are freely dispensed to the most needy amongst us." There was rock hauling for the Parowan Relief Society building and the dinner dance given as a reward to all who thus earn-



ed tickets of admission. There were contributions to the Emigration Fund for bringing more saints from abroad to swell the colonies; "Church Teams" donated with drivers each season to meet the emigrants at the railroad terminal beyond the Rockies, and the missionaries called to preach "the restoration" to the nations. Such activities required personal sacrifice and served as continual testing of faith in the Kingdom. They enriched the social life of the colonies as "farewell parties" were frequent and welcoming celebrations heart warming.

#### CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS:

There were other church activities which reminded the "Saints of the Kingdom" that they were also citizens of Iron County and of Utah Territory. Rumors of earthquakes in the county in 1856 prompted Parowan to give dutiful account of her colonial children. "At the latest", said the reporter to the Deseret News, "Cedar, Paragonah, Harmony, Fort Johnson, Beaver, and other settlements are still secure". Then he added hopefully, "There is a firm and settled feeling in the bosom of all that the time has arrived for Utah to enjoy her just rights as a state. The constitution of the proposed State of Deseret was duly read at a public meeting of the citizens and adopted by unanimous vote."

With maturing of the second generation (attested by a missionary call in 1883 to New Samuel Whitney, first child born in Parowan,) came "underground days" for polygamists. For a decade they played hide-and-seek with U. S. Marshals who sought their arrest for unlawful cohabitation. Missions and jail sentences were mentioned in the records with equal frequency in the 80's and were held equally honorable in the eyes of the Latter-day Saints. And why not? They both involved religious principles - the first and obligation "to carry the message o the Kingdom to all the World" and the second to obey the law o "Celestial Marriage" as revealed in Mormon scripture. Popular indignation reached its climax in Parowan on Dec. 16, 1886 when Edward M. Dalton was shot to death by a U. S. deputy marshall. Prosecution by the government ceased only when the "Manifesto" issued by





President Wilford Woodruff in 1890, brought polygamy to an end in Utah. This action cleared the way for long delayed statehood in 1896.

#### IV

### THE PRESENT CENTURY

#### POPULATION SHIFTS:

The original boundaries of Iron County included a strip of territory about 100 miles wide extending from the Rockies to the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Subsequent creation of surrounding counties and states brought several changes, the major ones of which came with losses to Washington and Beaver Counties in 1856, to Nevada in 1861, to Colorado in 1876 and to Garfield County in 1882. The remaining area includes 3,256 square miles with a total population of 9,701 in 1950.

With exception of the early fifties when iron-manufacturing Cedar City temporarily reached a population of 928, Parowan remained the largest town in Southern Utah for nearly forty years. During this period the mother colony, and to some extent Cedar City, contributed liberally in population to the founding of widely scattered settlements; Santa Clara (1854), Beaver and Minersville (1856) Washington (1857), Toquerville, Virgin City, and Pioche, (1858), St. George, (1861), Panacca and Panguitch 1864), nine families from Parowan to Escalante (1874), fifteen families to Snowflake, Arizona (1878), and fourteen families to San Juan County (1880), twelve families to Manassah, Colorado, six to Le-grande, Oregon, and twenty to Big Horn, Wyoming, in 1900.

Iron County's growth to 1880 was largely the result of immigration. From 1880 to 1920, its growth resulted from natural increase. The population balance shifted to Cedar City in 1890 and since 1923 it has experienced a growth reflecting significant changes in economic conditions. In 1950, its population of 6,172 included 61% of the County total. Important factors of change have been education, mining, transportation and scenic resources.

FIRST FRUITS OF STATEHOOD - Branch Normal College:

The first session of the Utah State Legislature in March,



1897, voted to establish a branch of the State University in some community in Southern Utah. Cedar City won a spirited contest of location by virtue of its educational record, by enlarging and donating to the state a site already set aside for its "Stake Academy", and by giving assurance that it could and would meet exacting building requirements. A chapel and social hall already under construction was used for the school during the first year. The Deseret News caught the community in characteristic mood as of September 28, 1897, "Cedar City has a boom, an educational boom; There are now three large educational interests under the close watch care of all the citizens of Cedar, for in conversation with every man you meet it would seem from the interest taken that everyone was a trustee or member of some one of the school boards. These three interests are, the district schools, the Church Academy, and the State Normal School. The latter seems to draw the greatest part of the attention just now for the people feel justly proud of the fact that they have hastily finished and presented to the state a fine brick building ordinarily designed for ward purposes, lectures, balls, etc.

"The strong men of Cedar City .... have secured a loan of some fifty thousand dollars with fifty thousand of their noted sheep herd stock in security for the purpose of erecting the state normal school building next season upon a beautiful and commanding site of fifteen acres .... " An heroic effort involving the entire community met the requirements for housing the College on Academy Hill in the fall of 1898. In 1913 it became a branch of the Utah State Agricultural College.

#### IRON WAITS FOR TRANSPORTATION:

A decade following Cedar City's experience private enterprise attempted iron manufacturing in what became Old Iron Town. First known as the Great Western Manufacturing Company in 1868 the industry, under various names, produced considerable quantities of iron during the seventies and eighties. While in operation it supplied much needed material for Pioche, Bullionville, Silver Reef and other mining towns. Two tons of castings were manufactured



in Salt Lake in December, 1874. Following announcement that another hundred tons would soon be delivered by the Great Western Iron Mining and Manufacturing Company, the Deseret News commented, "The successful manufacture of iron in Utah is now demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt and it but needs railroad connections between the works (at Iron Town) and this city...." The materials for a projected railroad from Iron City to Pioche lay rusting in Cedar City for many years as a reminder that development of Iron Mountain waited that necessary transportation.

#### RAILROAD DREAMING:

A major objective in Iron County's original colonization was contact with the Pacific Coast by way of the Spanish Trail. In January 1851, Brigham Young suggested to the assembly of the State of Deseret, "From this city (Salt Lake) a railroad will probably be constructed to Iron County", and immediately the southern pioneers, indulging visions of immediate rail construction, petitioned the assembly for such a line from Salt Lake City to San Diego.

A decade passed before the railroad loomed again across Iron County's economic horizon. Home industry was lagging and high cost of imports demanded freer access to the outside world. Proximity of Mormon colonies to the second largest river in Western America stirred speculation as to the feasibility of Colorado River navigation. Already in 1855 Captain Rufus Ingalls had written, "The Colorado River at its great bend nearest to the line of the Basin is only 25 miles from Las Vegas, a recent settlement of the Mormons.... Now if the Colorado is navigable to the point referred to (and persons entitled to confidence say it is) the Mormons might introduce their supplies and send off their surplus products by the Gulf of California, and when there is wealth and enterprise enough, they might connect the Great Salt Lake Lake with the Colorado by railroad, and thus avail themselves of the coal, iron, and other resources in the southern portion of the Territory."

The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study of the history of the United States. It is argued that a knowledge of the past is essential for a full understanding of the present. The author then goes on to discuss the various factors which have shaped the development of the United States, including the influence of the British, the Spanish, and the French. He also discusses the role of the American people in the creation of the nation. The paper concludes by stating that the study of the history of the United States is a task of great importance, and that it is one which should be undertaken by all who are interested in the future of the country.

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Lieutenant Joseph C. Ives explored the Colorado for navigation as far up as Black Canyon in 1857-58. No sooner had he withdrawn than Brigham Young sent George A. Smith to continue the investigation. Six years later he directed establishment of "Call's Landing" where warehouses were constructed 15 miles above present Boulder Dam. The Deseret Mercantile Association was organized, shipping companies began operations, and it was anticipated that the lower Colorado would become a channel of Mormon immigration.

But instead Iron County watched the railroad creep southward from Salt Lake City - first to York in 1875 and then to Milford in 1880 when a Parowan reporter boasted "we can now make it to Salt Lake in two days." A quarter of a century of freight wagons, stages, buckboards, and white-top buggies followed. Then in 1905, the Salt Lake - Los Angeles railroad stretched itself across the desert in west Iron County and Lund became the door to rail traffic for nearly two decades. During those two decades wagon roads developed into highways in response to automotive transportation.

#### HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT:

The settlers in Iron County had scarcely surrounded themselves with fort walls before they became highway conscious. A Parowan reporter wrote on May 14, 1854, "The mail drags its slow length along once a month .... Congress in the appropriation of \$25,000 for the making of a road from the Great Salt Lake through the cities towards California expressly designed it should be expended for the benefit of the country in which the road was to be made but what has been the result? Contractors and sub contractors have passed over the road, removed a few loose stones, and small numbers of brush, done considerable wind work, pocketed the money and left the road nearly as it was.

"Streams which a portion of the season are impassable.... are left unbridged.... This road is a great highway for merchandise and emigrant trains from Southern California and it seems obviously necessary that some assistance should be rendered...."



The transition from horse drawn to motor vehicles after the turn of the century brought rapid change. The Utah State Road Commission was created in 1909; in 1914 a five-county road convention was held in Hurricane expressive of cooperative action in highway construction; and in 1916 the old road passing through Iron County about which the Mormon pioneers complained in 1855 became the Arrowhead Route to California.



Cedar Breaks

#### SCENIC RESOURCES:

An important factor in highway development was southern Utah's awakening to its scenic beauty. The apparent indifference of the pioneers to surrounding scenery resulted from intense pre-occupation with securing the necessities of life. To them the cliffs and canyons and lava flows were primarily obstructions. It remained for government engineers and scientists to arouse popular appreciation for the landscape beauty of Iron and surrounding counties. The Wheeler and Powell surveys in the seventies followed by others, began to make known the scenic wonders of the Markagunt Plateau.

C. E. Dutton wrote in 1881, "From the southwest salient of the Markagunt we behold one of those sublime spectacles which



characterize the loftiest standpoints of the Plateau Province. Even to the mere tourist there are few panoramas so broad and grand; but to the geologist there comes with all the visible grandeur a deep significance. The radius of vision is from 80 to 100 miles. We stand upon the great cliff of Tertiary beds which meanders to the eastward till lost in the distance, sculptured into strange and even startling forms, and lit up with colors so rich and glowing that they awaken enthusiasm in the most apathetic ...."

Such scenery could not long remain hidden from popular gaze. Theodore Roosevelt's national conservation program resulted in the creation of Grand Canyon National Monument in 1908, Mukuntuweap National Monument (Zion) in 1909, with subsequent establishment of the National Parks Service in 1916. Conscious of its strategic position with reference to Park visits via rail and bus Cedar City made ready to handle the growing traffic. Automobile tours included Zion, North Rim of Grand Canyon and Bryce; the Chamber of Commerce backed a proposal to build magnificent El Escalante Hotel; and \$100,000 was raised for purchasing a right-of-way from Lund which was then donated to the Union Pacific as an inducement to build a local terminal.

The president of the Union Pacific Railroad came in 1921-22 to tour the Parks area and investigate Southern Utah resources. As a result he nodded approval to a spur line into Cedar City from Lund. He justified his decision on anticipated traffic from agriculture, livestock, tourist travel, and iron ore. One million forty-nine thousand dollars brought the rails to Cedar City in less than three months. The Union Pacific purchased Hotel El Escalante, organized Utah Parks Company which absorbed private tourist enterprises and settled down to the business of inviting the world to come and see the unexcelled grandeur of Southern Utah.

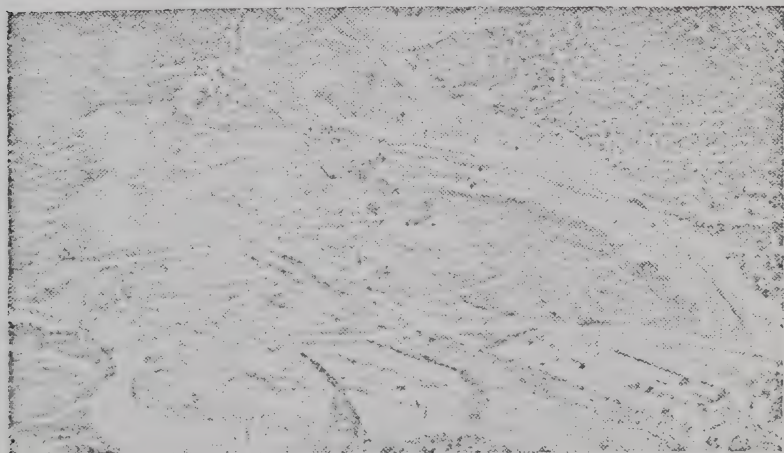
The "Circle of Painted Cliffs" long familiar to Parowan stockmen and visible on the plateau behind Cedar's Red Hill was winning attention as "Cedar Breaks". Those who had seen it closely were overwhelmed by the vast, colorful amphitheatre a half mile deep and two miles across, cut down from Markagunt Plateau.





High above the flaming terraces Brian Head rose to 11,315 feet to view five states above the chromatic dispersion of Rainbow Land - Zion, Bryce, Vermillion Cliffs, Yankee Meadow and mysterious Lake Navajo.

The Breaks were first reached by automobile from Parowan in 1920. That year visitors to Zion National Park numbered 3,692 and three years later Bryce Canyon was named a national park. Improved highways, hotels and auto courts came with increasing traffic and old Indian trails became roads in the Park Circuit - from Rockville, on the Virgin, to Pipe Springs on the Arizona Strip, and from Highway 89, passing Navajo Lake, to Cedar Breaks. One of the most spectacular feats in road building history was completed in 1930 when a tunnel at an elevation of 4,835 feet was bored through the cliffs of Zion. It paralleled the face of the red walls for a mile and a quarter leaving five windows on balconies from which motorists might gaze in awe upon the winding road below. The \$2,500,000 project completed direct connections in the round-trip parks tours. Visitors to Zion National Park increased from 55,297 in 1930 to 320,994 in 1950.



Iron Mining



## IRON DREAM COMES TRUE:

Mining and railroad expansion in the West have depended greatly upon each other. Iron ore production in Utah before the railroad came to Cedar City varied between 15,000 and 45,000 tons annually. Then Iron Mountain came to life. Columbia Steel blew in its Ironton pig-iron plant in 1924 and production rose to 164,154 gross tons. Iron County watched with satisfaction as Utah's annual iron ore production rose to the million mark during World War II and in the last year of the struggle to nearly two million tons. Consumers of this flow of ore from Iron Mountain were the Ironton Plant of Columbia Steel, the war-time Geneva Steel plant near Provo, Colorado Fuel and Iron, and the Kaiser plant in Fontana, California.

The iron industry had in reality come to the West but close of the war brought uncertainty of its permanency. Then when the U.S. Steel Corporation took over the war-time Geneva plant in 1947 Utah iron ore tonnage jumped to 2,741,000. Iron manufacturing which had its beginnings west of the Mississippi at Cedar City in 1852 was in the West to stay. As huge ore bodies were uncovered and eaten away by giant shovels taking five-ton bites, the question rose, how big is Iron Mountain? What are the ore reserves to feed this endless flow of cars out of Iron County? Estimates in the beginning swung like a confused magnetic needle between 40,000,000 and 900,000,000 and came to rest around 200,000,000 gross tons of 52% iron ore. In 1951 the near seven hundred employees of the combined iron mines received a total monthly payroll in excess of \$150,000.

1951:

Pay rolls of the mines have strengthened the economic pulse of Iron County communities. Increasing tourist traffic finds ultra modern hotel and motorcourt service. Cedar City has become a distributing center for Southern Utah. A modern hospital, two medical clinics and a state laboratory clinic have established it as a health center. A modern municipal airport serves Western Airlines and Park-Air Flying Service; Radio Station K.S.U.B. has



become "the Voice of Southern Utah"; the Iron Colony of 1851 has become a popular convention city of 1951.

Despite population shifts Parowan continues as County seat and, true to her founding objective, remains an agricultural community - a dairy center and large producer of potatoes. On the Paiute Highlands sawmills still produce lumber in competition with livestock grazing. Clay foothills, once the source of pioneer pottery respond again to experimental ceramic enterprise. And gracing the Parowan end of a scenic drive, Vermillion Castle (Five Mile) points the way to Yankee Meadows and Cedar Breaks from which Park Service busses descend to Cedar City. This scenic loop across the highlands between Iron County's two major cities solicits joint development.

Iron County welcomes more than passing tourists. It fulfills the color photographer's dream; motion picture sets bear witness to Hollywood's discovery of the favorable atmospheric conditions of its scenic beauty. Trout in mountain lakes and streams and the highest yield of deer in the country draw thousands to fish and hunt in a sportsman's paradise. Ski fans find promising courses where winter snows lay deep over summer picnic grounds.

**CULTURAL INFLUENCES:**

Iron County is indebted to men and women who could lift their eyes from the furrow, work bench, swivel chair or kitchen sink to see things in true perspective. These have found expression through innumerable organizations devoted to cultural advancement, community welfare, recreational activity, sports, and hobby riding. An uplifting influence has come from the schools and churches. "The people" of Iron County still serve on the "school board" demanding high educational standards and adequate plant facilities. County-wide school bus service brings students into modern high schools at Cedar City and Parowan. A unique development of the public school system is the Community Coordinating Council at Cedar City which has provoked country-wide comment. Among its committees are those promoting the music-arts and the annual art exhibits which are nationally re-





presentative and winning wide attention. The Branch Agricultural College has developed the largest livestock experimental program in the country, acquired the first Junior College Air R.O.T.C. and won four year status with power to confer degrees in education and Agriculture.

Demands of "the Kingdom" are perhaps less compelling than they were upon the pioneers but most of their descendants continue to worship in beautiful modern chapels which have replaced the "meeting houses", pay tithing, work on church welfare projects, and send their sons and daughters on missions. Parowan Stake, mother of Southern Utah communities, lost its geographical identity with Iron County when Cedar Stake was created in 1948. In the division Parowan retained her closest children, Paragonah, Enoch and Summit, while the new stake embraced Kanarra, New Harmony and the youngest ward, Newcastle on the edge of the Escalante Desert. A Presbyterian Community Church welcomes an increasing membership and Christ the King Parish reaches out to serve a widely scattered Catholic population.

#### ACROSS THE CENTENNIAL THRESHOLD:

Iron County's present generation pays homage to the unnamed thousands who labored to extend "the Kingdom" to the borders of the Great Inland Basin. They contributed substantially to the development of the American frontier. Theirs was a story of struggle, failure, adjustment, victory. The pioneers have bequeathed a legacy of experience which demands interpretation in terms of the present. Among the success factors which may be gleaned from its pages are:

- (1) A strong feeling of divine vocation; the pioneers drew extra strength to build canals, conquer deserts, and manufacture necessities from the vision of a great spiritual enterprise.
- (2) A group consciousness which merged individual and community interest. The spirit of personal sacrifice was conspicuous in pioneer experience.
- (3) A frontier experimental courage expressing itself through



trial and error in search of ways and means of developing local resources; often ignoring dollar values to achieve greater spiritual and cultural ends; a recognition that success may be the product of past failures pieced together.

(4) The will and aptitude for working cooperatively for mutual benefit; this not only within communities but between communities in recognition that the welfare of each affects the welfare of all.

The future invites continued progress - pioneering in new enterprises and new methods. Untouched resources await development. Beauty of landscape and the story of Iron County people still challenge the best strokes of brush and pen. Fresh opportunity beckons across the threshold of a new century.

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**NAMES OF THE IRON COUNTY PIONEERS WHO CAME IN THE  
GEORGE A. SMITH COMPANY AND ARRIVED ON CENTER  
CREEK JANUARY 13, 1851.**

ADAMS, WILLIAM  
ADAMS, ORSON B.  
BENSON, RICHARD  
BROWN, EBENEZER  
BLOXUM, THOMAS  
BAYLES, HERMAN D.  
ROGGS, FRANCIS  
BURNHAM, ISSAC  
BRIMHALL, GEORGE  
BAKER, SIMON  
BARTON, LORENZO  
BATEMAN, JOSEPH  
BATEMAN, SAMUEL  
BASTIN, ANDREW  
BARNARD, JOHN P.  
BADGER, JOHN C.  
BRUNSON, LEMAN  
BRINGHURST, SAMUEL  
BRINTON, DAVID

BURTON, JOHN (Colored)  
BRINGHURST, WILLIAM  
CHERRY, AARON B.  
CALL, ANSON  
CORBETT, THOMAS  
CANNON, ANGUS M.  
CHIPMAN, WASHBURN  
CARTWRIGHT, THOMAS  
CARRUTHERS, MATHEW  
DALTON, JOHN  
DALTON, CHARLES W.  
DAME, WILLIAM H.  
DECKER, ZACHARIAH B.  
ENSIGN, MARIUS  
EMPEY, WILLIAM Y.  
ELMER, ELIJAH  
FULMER, ALMON L.  
FARRER, JAMES  
FARR, AARON F.



FROST, BURR  
GOODALE, ISAAC L.  
GROVES, ELISHA H.  
GREEN, ROBERT  
HOPE, EDWARD  
HULSE, BENJAMIN R.  
HORNE, JOSEPH  
HAMILTON, SAMUEL  
HENDERSON, JOHN H.  
HENDRICKS, DANIEL  
HOLBROOK, CHANDLER  
HOVEY, JOSEPH G.  
HOFFHEIMS, JACOB  
HARRISON, RICHARD  
HUNTER, GEORGE  
HARMISON, JAMES  
HALL, JOB P.  
HALL, CHARLES  
HOWD, SIMEON D.  
HARPER, CHARLES A.  
HOLLINGSHEAD, NELSON S.  
JOHNSON, SEXTUS E.  
JOHNSON, NEPHI  
JUDD, ZADOK K.  
LEWIS, JESSE  
LEE, JOHN D.  
LUNT, HENRY  
LEWIS, PHILIP B.  
LEWIS, JAMES  
LITTLE, JAMES S.  
LISH, PETER  
LAWSON, JAMES  
LEWIS, TARLTON  
LANEY, WILLIAM  
LEAVITT, GEORGE  
LOVE, ANDREW  
LAUNCEFORT, JOSEPH  
MILLETT, JOSEPH  
MORSE, WILLIAM A.  
MC GUFFIE, JAMES  
MOORE, GEORGE

MITCHELL, WM. C. SR.  
MITCHELL, WM. C. JR.  
MILLER, ROBERT E.  
MILLER, DANIEL A.  
NEWMAN, ELIJAH  
PARKS, JAMES  
PUGMIRE, JONATHAN  
PUGMIRE, JOSEPH A.  
RAY, PAUL  
ROBINSON, JOSEPH L.  
ROBINSON, WILLIAM  
SMITH, GEORGE A.  
SMITH, PETER A.  
SHEETS, ELIJAH F.  
STEELE, JOHN  
SANDERSON, JOHN  
SABIN, ASA W.  
SMITH, JONATHAN  
SMITH, THOMAS S.  
SHIRTS, PETER  
SHIRTS, GEORGE  
SHIRTS, DON CARLOS  
TOWN, CHESTER  
TOPHAM, JOHN  
VANCE, WILLIAM P.  
WOOLSEY, HYRUM  
WILEY, ROBERT  
WHIPPLE, EDSON  
WRIGHT, JEFFERSON  
WOOLF, JOHN A.  
WOOLLEY, SAMUEL A.  
WATTS, BENJAMIN  
WOOD, GEORGE  
WAH, PULL (French)  
WHITNEY, FRANCIS T.  
WILLIAMS, EDWARD  
WINN, DENNIS  
WALKER, JOSEPH  
WOOD, GIDEON D.  
WEBB, CHARLES Y.  
WHEELER, THOMAS S.

YOUNG, GEORGE C.





## **IRON COUNTY CENTENNIAL**

### **CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

Ivan Decker - Chairman

D. C. Dix

E. J. King

Lannell Lunt

Wm. R. Palmer

### **CENTENNIAL BOOKLET**

#### **COMMITTEE**

Gustive O. Larson - Chairman

Hulda M. Hulet

Wm. R. Palmer

Zoe R. Palmer

Richard Rowley

Leslie Schrandt - cover design



# ALBION CENTENNIAL CYCLOPEDIA

## ALBION, ALABAMA

1. Albion is a small town in the northern part of the county, situated on the Alabama River, about 10 miles from the mouth of the river.
2. It was founded in 1812, and was at first called "New Albion," but the name was soon changed to "Albion."
3. The town is situated on the Alabama River, and is one of the most important points on the river for the export of cotton and other products of the country.
4. It is a healthy and pleasant place, and is well adapted for the residence of those who wish to engage in the cotton trade.

## ALBION, MISSISSIPPI

1. Albion is a small town in the northern part of the county, situated on the Mississippi River, about 10 miles from the mouth of the river.
2. It was founded in 1812, and was at first called "New Albion," but the name was soon changed to "Albion."

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ALBION

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